

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Masahiko Matsukawa et al.

Application No.: 10/743,389

Confirmation No.: 7940

Filed: December 23, 2003

Art Unit: 1773

For: CHEMICAL CONVERSION COATING
AGENT AND SURFACE-TREATED METAL

Examiner: K. R. Kruer

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date, OR more than three months after the date of entry of the national stage of a PCT application, AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs first, but before the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance (37 CFR 1.97(c)).

The relevance of Citation BA can be found in Citation AA which claims priority based on Citation BA and in its attached English language abstract and Full Machine English language translation. The relevance of Citation BB can be found in Citation AB which claims priority

based on Citation BB and in its attached English language abstract and Full Machine English language translation. The relevance of Citation BC can be found in Citation AC which claims priority based on Citation BC and in its attached English language abstract and Full Machine English language translation. The relevance of Citation BF can be found in Citation AD which is a priority patent of Citation BF, in Citation AE which is a divisional of Citation AD, and in its attached English language abstract and Full Machine English language translation. The relevance of Citation BH can be found in Citation BI which is an international phase application of Citation BH. The relevance of Citation BJ can be found in Citation AF which is a priority patent of Citation BJ and in its attached English language abstract and Full Machine English language translation. The relevance of Citations BD and BK can be found in their attached English language abstracts and Full Machine English language translations. The relevance of Citations BE and BG can be found in their attached English language abstracts. Citations BA-BH, BJ, and BK are cited references in the Office Action for one of priority JP Applications No. 2003-403687, which was received November 6, 2007. Citations BA, BC, BE-BH, and BJ are also cited in the third party observation for said JP Application, which was received October 30, 2007. The other cited reference, JP3-188176, has already been submitted as IDS.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicant has not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is “prior art” for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21581-00310-US. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Burton A. Amernick/
Burton A. Amernick
Registration No.: 24,852
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP
1875 Eye Street, NW
Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 331-7111
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant